



22 August 2019

Dear Father,

It is with sadness I inform you that Father David Elder died in the early hours on Tuesday 20 August 2019, at his home in Torrisholme. May he rest in peace.

Father David was born on 14 August 1943 in Blackpool.

He went to St John Vianney Primary School, and St Joseph's College, Blackpool. He then attended St Patrick's, Maynooth and Séminaire, St Sulpice, Issy-les-Moulineaux, Paris for his priestly studies.

Father David was ordained to the priesthood on 29 June 1968 at St John Vianney, Blackpool.

Following Ordination, he was appointed to serve on the staff at Underley Hall as a Physics Teacher. In 1975 he studied at Chelsea College, University of London as well as ministering as a part-time chaplain at North Kensington. In 1979 he was appointed to the staff of Upholland as a Maths Teacher. In 1981 he became Administrator to the Catholic Children's Society. In 1988 he was appointed Parish Priest at St Gregory, Workington. He moved to St Patrick, Morecambe in 1994. In 1995 he was appointed as part-time Spiritual Director at Ushaw College. Finally, in 2002 he moved to Saint Mary and St Michael, Garstang and after '*14 happy and grace-filled years*', on Easter Sunday 27 March 2016 he retired. He then lived in Torrisholme.

Reception of the Body and Deanery Mass will be on Thursday 5 September 2019 at 7pm, at St Mary and St Michael's Church, Garstang. The Requiem Mass will be in the same church, on Friday 6 September, at 11.30am, followed by interment in St Mary & St Michael's cemetery. There will be a buffet lunch for family and clergy at The Best Western Country Club, Garstang thereafter. Priests who wish to concelebrate are requested to bring an Alb and Purple Stole as usual. Please inform Father Tom Butler if you wish to attend Tel: 01995 602164.

I offer my sincere condolences to Father David's family, all his brother priests and his many friends and parishioners.

Sincerely in Christ,

+Paul Swarbrick  
Bishop of Lancaster